

# FISCAL NOTE

## SB 213 - HB 457

April 4, 2003

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Increases the penalties for offenses pertaining to telecommunications. Defines *theft offenses* as any conduct involved in theft of telecommunication services or data, including the making, distributing, or use of devices, plans, or materials for the unauthorized interception or disruption of media, and the fraudulent use of telephone or credit card numbers to avoid payment of tolls. Violations involving 5 or more devices constitute a Class D felony, violations involving fewer than 5 devices constitutes a Class E felony. Other violations remain a Class B misdemeanor. Civil penalties would include injunctive relief and damages.

### ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures - \$14,900/Incarceration\***

Assumes one additional Class D felony conviction and one additional Class E felony conviction each year.

*\*Section 9-4-210, TCA, requires that: For any law enacted after July 1, 1986, which results in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state facilities, there shall be appropriated from recurring revenues the estimated operating cost of such law. The amount appropriated for operating cost, in current dollars, shall be based upon the highest cost of the next 10 years, beginning with the year the additional sentence to be served impacts the correctional facilities population.*

### CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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